



Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



Adaptive Embedded Boundary Discretizations for Multimaterial Simulation

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MultiMat 2013, SF
September 5th, 2013

Talk outline

- Finite volume cut cell background, idealism
- Embedded boundary examples
- Higher-order approaches?
- A little algebra – pros/cons of least squares
- Futures and conclusions

ANAG and Chombo

Applied Numerical Algorithms Group (ANAG) at LBNL,

Phil Colella, group lead, <http://crd.lbl.gov/anag>

- **Applications-driven fundamental research** in PDE discretization and solvers
 - **Development and deployment of high-performance software** for numerical methods using locally-structured grids, particles.
 - **Collaboration with DOE science and technology areas** on algorithms and software.
- *Cross-linkage*: emerging science collaborations motivate algorithm and software research, software supports algorithms research, algorithms feed back into software.

Chombo: A Software Toolkit for Structured-Grid Applications, <http://chombo.lbl.gov>

- **Supports a wide variety of applications** in a common software framework.
- Provides applications scientists with **open-source high-performance components** for developing complex applications with high-performance scalable implementations.
- **Parallel performance** (200k+ processors) with low-level details hidden from the applications developer using a layered software architecture.

“Makes the easy things harder, but impossible things possible.”

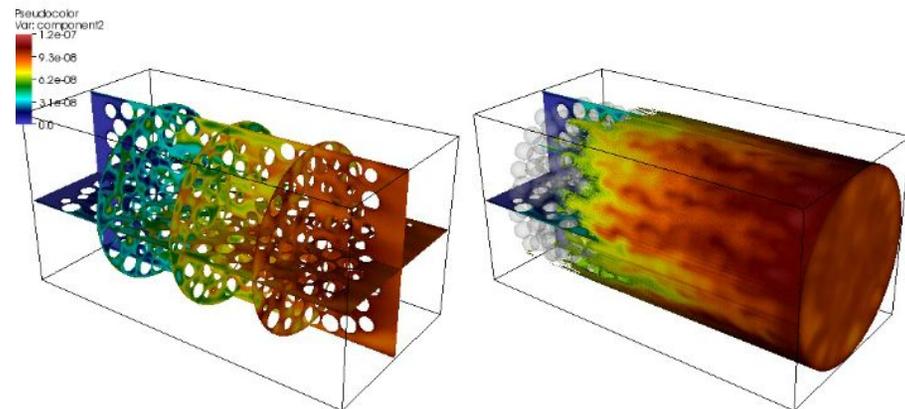
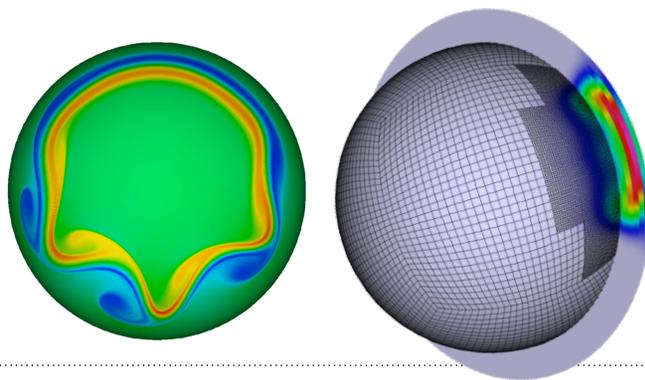
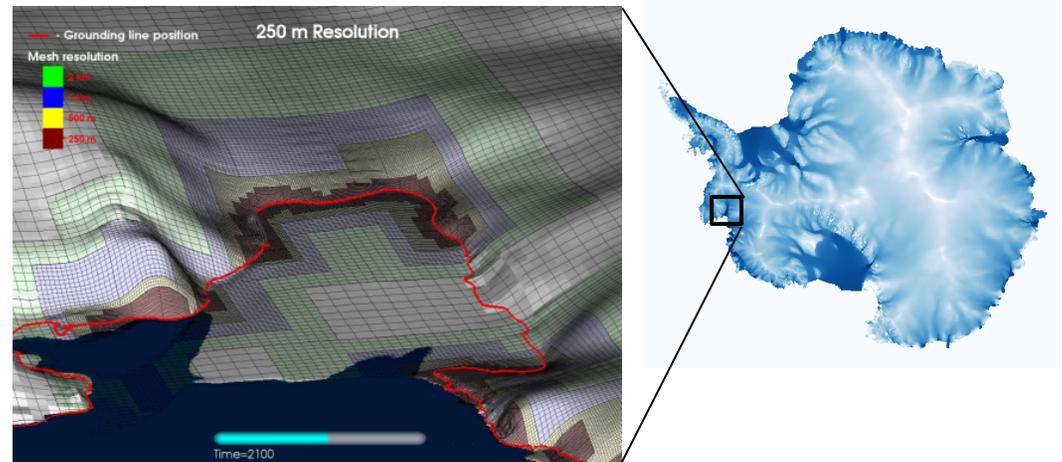
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(Hans Johansen, LBNL)



ANAG Algorithms Research

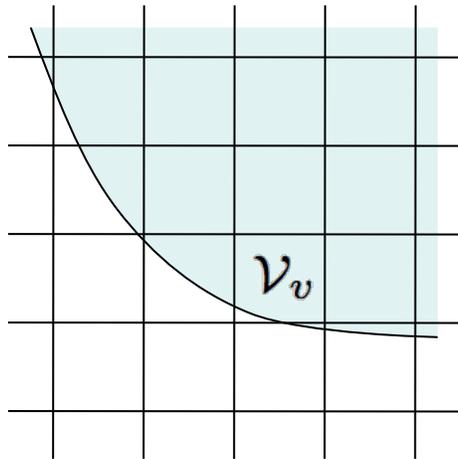
- High-order, finite-volume methods, space-time AMR algorithms
- Multiscale models for complex fluids, phase space, multi-physics
- Embedded boundary for complex geometries, mapped multiblock for high-order methods.
- Fast solvers that minimize communication, memory access.

“Mathematical engineering” for science and software on HPC platforms.



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“EB” Chombo: Finite Volume for Cut Cells



Operator: defined from divergence theorem on a “cut cell”

$$\int_{V_v} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dV = \sum_{f \in f(v)} \int_{\mathcal{F}_f} \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n}_f dA$$

$$\nabla \cdot \beta(\nabla u) = \rho, \quad \mathbf{F}(u) = \beta(\nabla u)$$

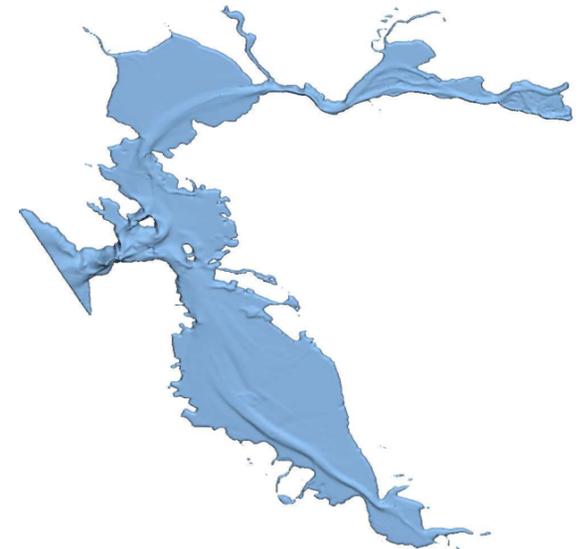
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \rho(\nabla u), \quad \mathbf{F}(u) = \rho(\nabla u)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(u) = S(u), \quad \mathbf{F}(u) \text{ is given.}$$

Why cut cells?

- Conservative discretizations important for physics
- AMR effective for smaller number of boundary cells
- Move/refine boundary without “global regridding”
- Regular grid calculations very scalable, optimized
- Compatible with mapped grids, too (for accuracy)

SF Bay digital elevation map
[Ligocki et al, 2008]



“EB” Chombo: AMR Finite Volume for Cut Cells

Hyperbolic: FV discretizations important for coupling

- Conservative convection-diffusion-reaction
- Accurate jump conditions (shock speeds, fluid-solid coupling, moving boundaries, etc.)
- Non-linear fluxes use limiters, min/max preservation

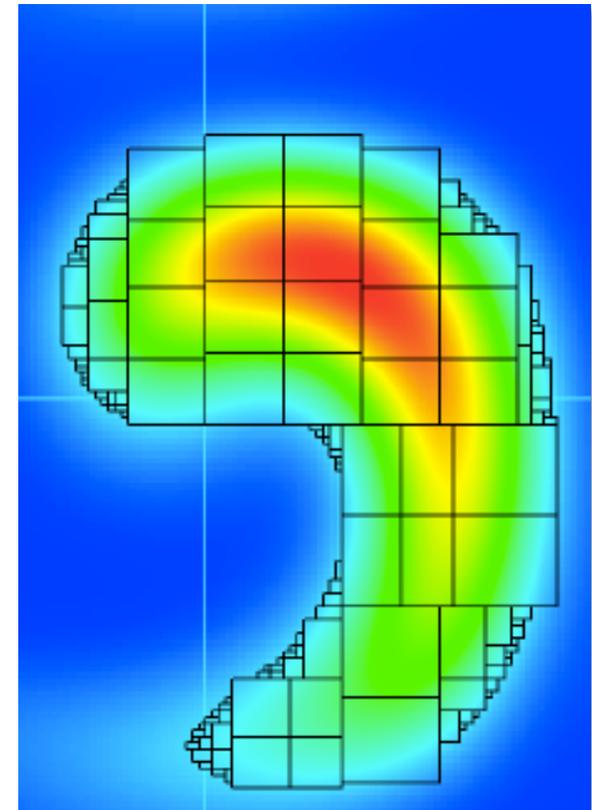
→ Primary issue is explicit time-stepping for “small cells”

Parabolic: discretization in time, space (“method of lines”)

- Conservative convection-diffusion-reaction
- Fast solvers available (such as multi-grid, FMM)
- “Small cell” problem expressed in matrix conditioning

→ Primary issue is stability for operator (eg. PD matrix)

Adaptivity: to contain error (both spatial and temporal)

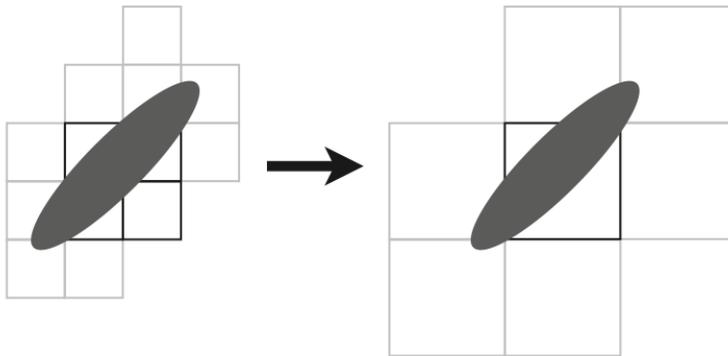


Stiff CDR AMR example [Zhang, HJ 2012]

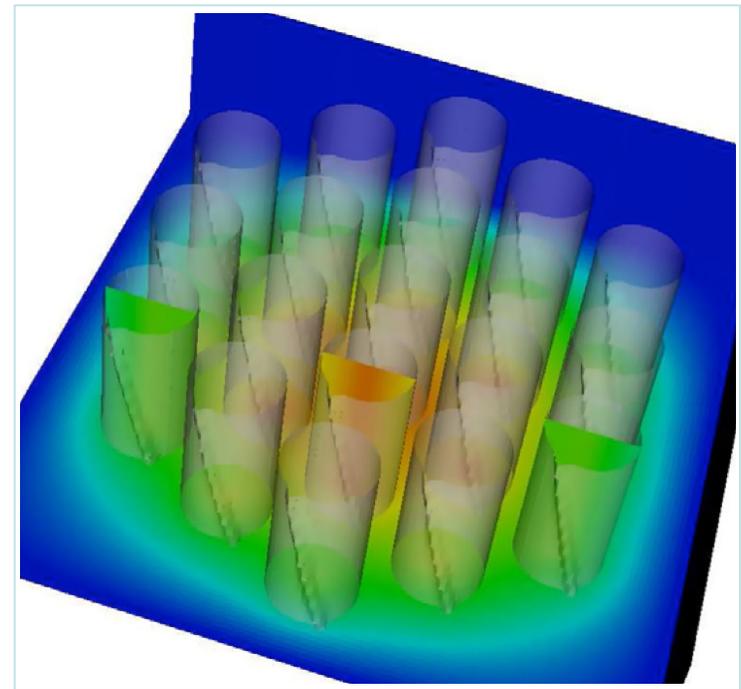
“MF” Chombo for Multimaterial

Material interfaces with flux-balance conditions:

- “Jump” conditions important for multi-fluid physics
- Boundary refinement requires additional, but local data structures (like octree)
- Regular grid calculations still very scalable, optimized for threading / vector processors

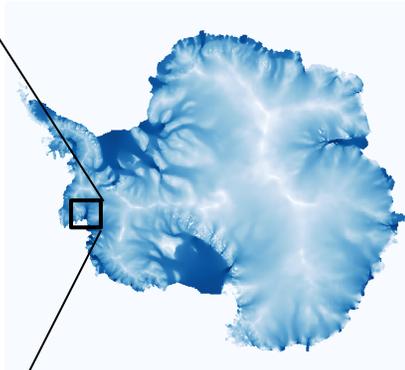
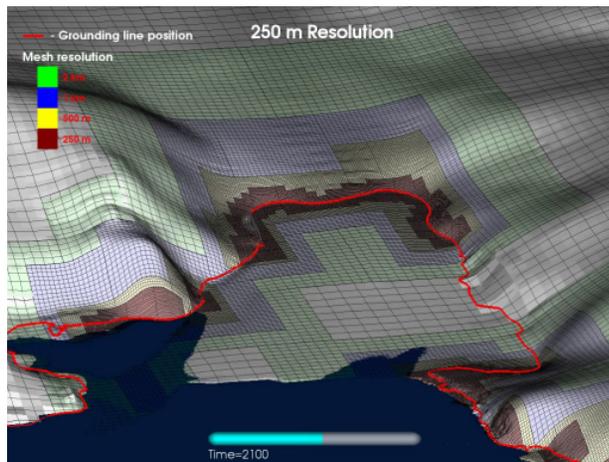


Support for sub-grid scale grid connectivity, data structures [Crockett et al 2011]



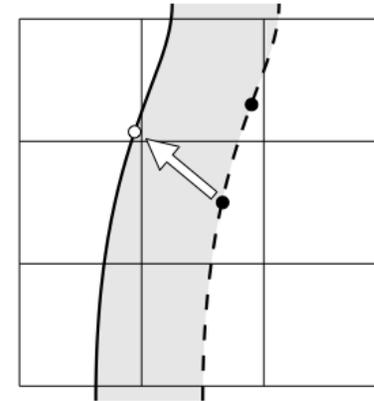
Multi-material heat transfer problem using AMR embedded boundary approach [Crockett et al 2011]

In progress: Multimaterial Moving Interfaces



Ice sheet grounding line
[Cornford et al 2012]

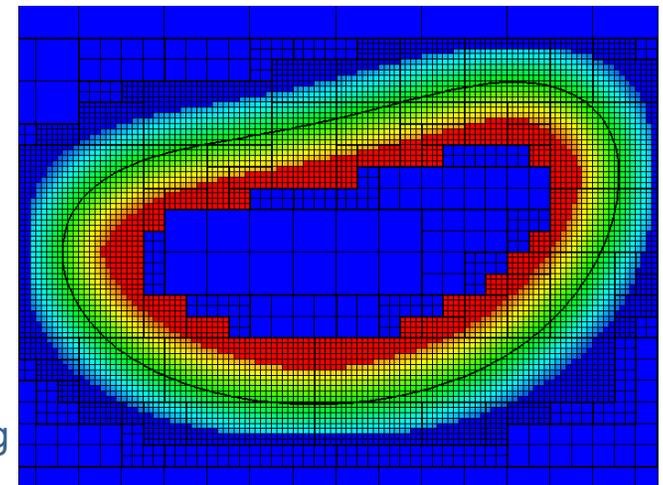
Moving boundary INS [Miller et al 2012]



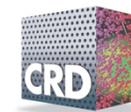
Track interfaces with conservation in mind

- Front motion connected to fluxes / physics
- Dynamic AMR required to control error
- Move/refine boundary without “global regridding”
- Volume conservation vs. reactions, phase change

Higher-order AMR front tracking
[Lee, HJ, work in progress]



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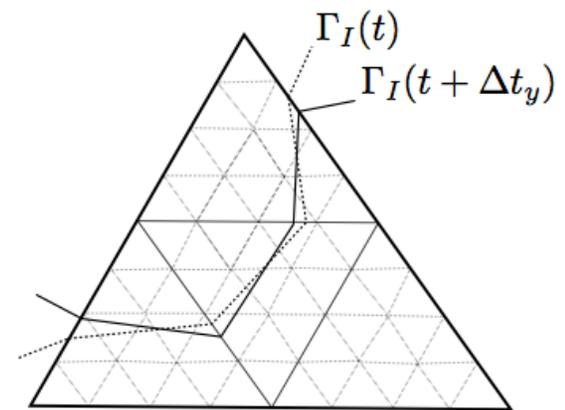


Difficulties with finite volume cut cells

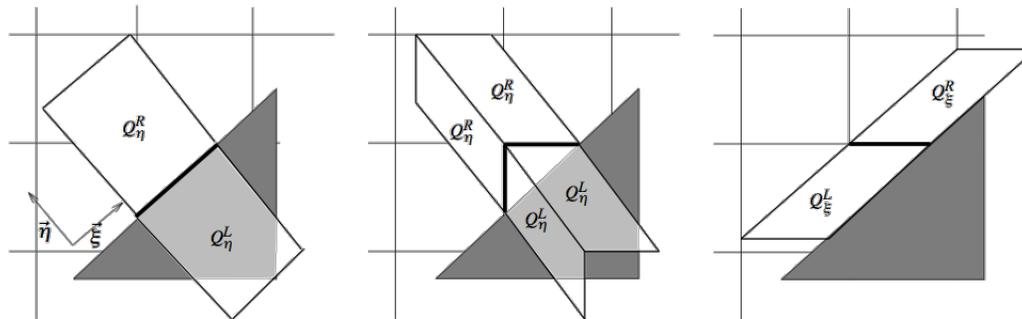
Design criteria: (+AMR)

- **Conservative:** flux-based discretization
- **Accuracy:** $O(h^P)$ but ok with order P-1 near EB
- **Stability:** no “small cell problem,” has stability characteristics of the differential operator
- **Consistency:** free stream preservation, polynomials
- **Simplification:** in the limit of full cells, low-memory regular discretization away from boundary
- **Usability:** for linear, non-linear, etc. problems in a framework that works for small or large problems

X-FEM DG for Stefan problem
[Bernauer et al 2011]



H-box configuration
[Helzel, Berger 2012]



Conservative fluxes using geometric moments

Fluxes: approximated by Taylor expansion on faces

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{F}_f} \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_f dA &= \sum_{d=1}^D \int_{\mathcal{F}_f} \phi^{(\mathbf{e}^d)} n_d dA && \boxed{m_{d,f}^{\mathbf{p}}} \\ &= \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{\mathbf{p}: |\mathbf{p}| < P} \frac{1}{\mathbf{p}!} \left[\phi^{(\mathbf{e}^d + \mathbf{p})} \right]_{\mathbf{x} = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_f} \int_{\mathcal{F}_f} n_d (\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_f)^{\mathbf{p}} dA + O(h^{P+D-1}) \end{aligned}$$

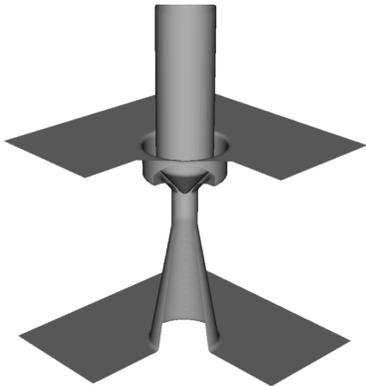
Parabolic fluxes: quadrature in time and on faces

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{t^n}^{t^{n+1}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{F}_f} \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_f dA \right) dt &= \sum_{s=1}^S \omega_s \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{\mathbf{p}: |\mathbf{p}| < P} \frac{1}{\mathbf{p}!} \left[\phi^{(\mathbf{e}^d + \mathbf{p})}(t_s) \right]_{\mathbf{x} = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_f} \\ & \boxed{m_{d,f}^{\mathbf{p}, t^n \rightarrow t^{n+1}}} \int_{t^n}^{t^{n+1}} \int_{\mathcal{F}_f} n_d (\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_f)^{\mathbf{p}} dA dt + O(h^{\min(P,S)+D-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Calculating geometric moments on cut cells

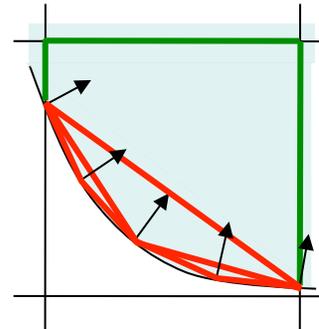
Moments: use divergence theorem to build a P^{th} -order least-squares system for volumes, moments, and normals based on implicit functions [Ligocki, et al, 2008]

- This is EB's "grid generation," but localized to cut cells
- With constraints, reproduces "water tight" combinations of moments
- Least-squares residual errors: h -scaled in higher-order moments that matter less
- Easily generated from level sets, surface triangulation, or CSG (implicit functions)
- Same approach works for mapped grids as well



Exact face moments
from intersections

Exact normals, gradients
from implicit function



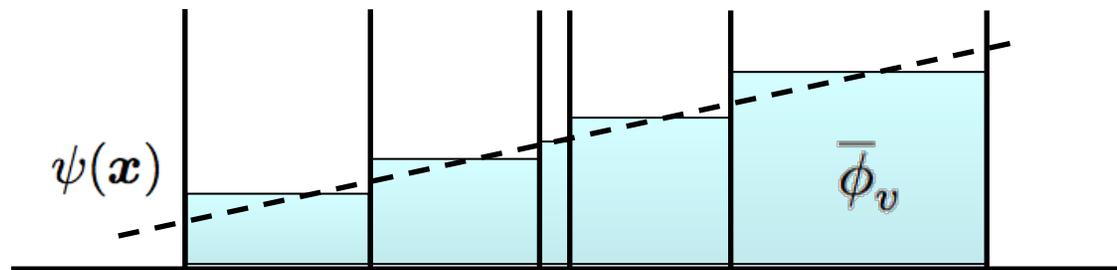
Subdivide for accuracy

Divergence theorem for
volume / area moments

Least Squares Fit to Averages

Averages: approximated via a Taylor expansion for cell-average quantities and their derivatives (Note this is different than finite differences - point-wise).

$$\bar{\phi}_v = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}_v|} \left(\sum_{\mathbf{p}: |\mathbf{p}| < P} \frac{1}{\mathbf{p}!} \partial^{\mathbf{p}} \phi(\mathbf{x}_0) m_v^{\mathbf{p}} \right) + O(h^P) \quad m_v^{\mathbf{p}} = \int_{\mathcal{V}_v} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^{\mathbf{p}} d\mathcal{V}$$



$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}: |\mathbf{k}| < P} c_{\mathbf{k}} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^{\mathbf{k}}$$

$$\bar{\psi}_v = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}_v|} \sum_{\mathbf{p}: |\mathbf{p}| < P} c_{\mathbf{p}} m_v^{\mathbf{p}}(\mathbf{x}_0)$$

Least Squares Fit to Averages

Averages: least-square approximation using a polynomial fit:

$$\min_c \|\Phi - \Psi\|_{2,W}, \text{ where}$$

$$\|\Phi - \Psi\|_{2,W} \equiv \sum_v w_v (\bar{\phi}_v - \bar{\psi}_v)^2, \quad \Psi = A c, \text{ where } A_{vp} = \frac{m_v^p(\mathbf{x}_0)}{m_v^0}$$

Averages: least-square approximation to calculate flux leads to a flux stencil

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n}_f} &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}_f|} \sum_{d=1}^D \left(\sum_{\mathbf{p}: |\mathbf{p}| < P} \frac{1}{\mathbf{p}!} \partial^{\mathbf{p}} F_d(\mathbf{x}_0) m_{d,f}^{\mathbf{p}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{m_f^0} \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{\mathbf{p}: |\mathbf{p}| < P} c_{d,\mathbf{p}} m_{d,f}^{\mathbf{p}} \\ &\equiv f^T c. \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} s^T &= f^T C \\ &= f^T (A^T W A)^\dagger A^T W \end{aligned}$$

Least Squares Fit for Fluxes

- **Fluxes:** stencils specified by system derived from fit:

$$\int_{\mathcal{F}_f} \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_f dA \approx \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{k}: \mathbf{k} \geq \mathbf{e}^d \\ \mathbf{k} < P\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{e}^d}} k_d C_{\mathbf{k}} m_{d,f}^{\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{e}^d} + O(h^{P+D-1})$$

$$\equiv A_{v'}(\mathbf{k}, f) \langle \phi \rangle_{v'}$$

- **Boundary conditions** can be specified generally

- **Dirichlet**, add to system for C :
$$\int_{\mathcal{F}_f} g dA = \sum_{\mathbf{p}: |\mathbf{p}| < P} C_{\mathbf{p}} m_f^{\mathbf{p}}$$
- **Neumann**, flux is specified (and can be added to system):
$$\int_{\mathcal{F}_f} \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}_f dA = \int_{\mathcal{F}_f} g dA$$

Example: free stream preservation

- Free stream preservation for $\mathbf{F} = \phi \mathbf{u}$:

$$\nabla \cdot (\phi \mathbf{u}) = \phi(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + (\nabla \phi) \mathbf{u}^0$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\phi \mathbf{u}) = \sum_k C_k (x - \bar{x})^k \Big|_{\nabla \hat{\phi} = \mathbf{0}} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})$$

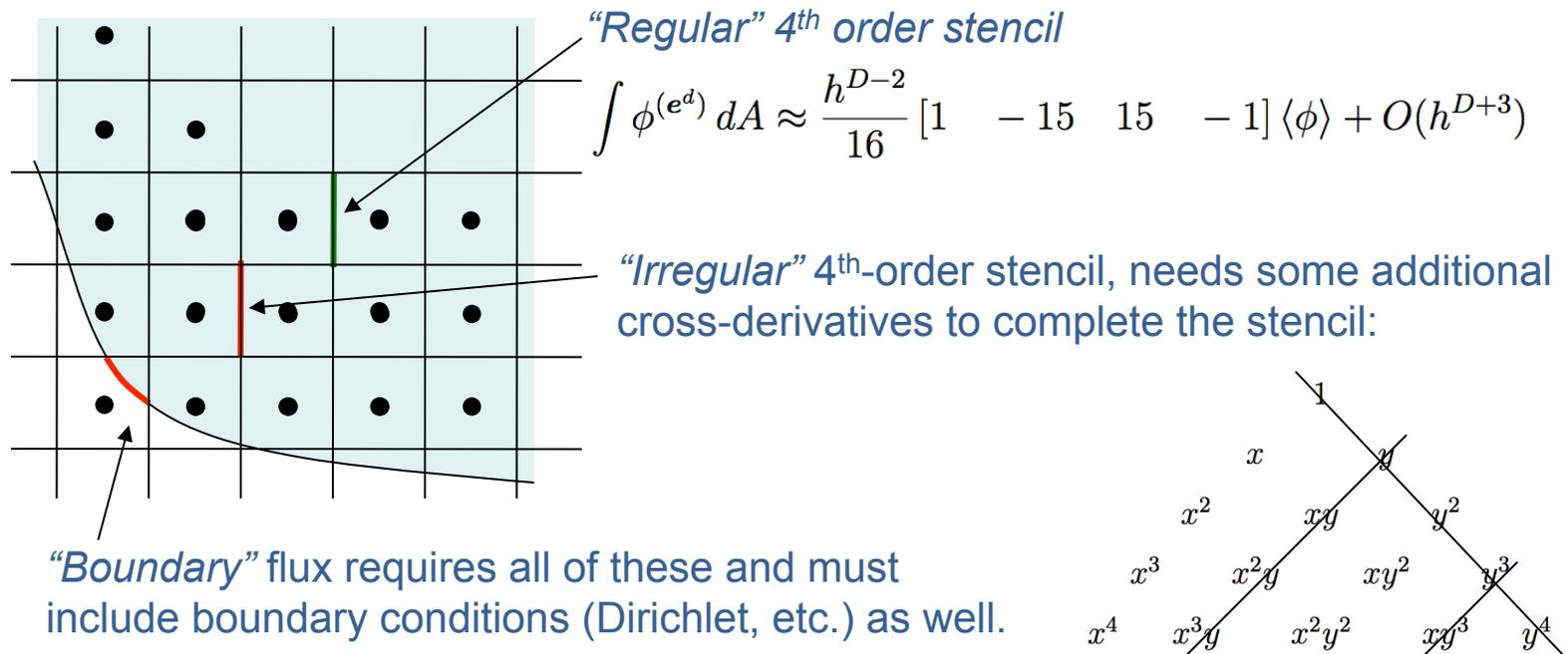
$$\nabla \cdot (\phi \mathbf{u}) = C_0 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})$$

- For $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{V_v} \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{f \in \partial v} n_d A_f \langle u_d \rangle_f = 0, \langle u_d \rangle_f \approx \frac{1}{A_f} \sum_k m_f^k \frac{1}{k!} u_d^{(k)}$$

Least Squares Fit (cont.)

Stencil: sufficient points to make system full-rank



- *All stencils automatically derived from least squares approach given set of neighbors that makes system full-rank*

Least Squares Fits – Dirty Secrets

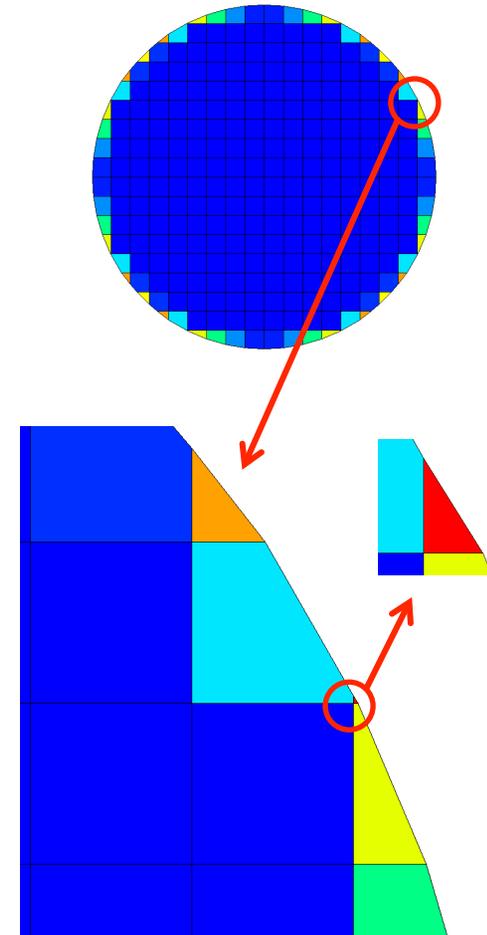
Stencils: N points, P polynomial coefficients:

- $N > P$
 - Coefficients are *over-determined*, 2-norm minimization
 - Stencils are *under-determined* - additional degrees of freedom that don't change consistency
 - Can lead to down-winding, Runge phenomenon, etc.
 - Need criteria for selecting the correct stencil: sparsity (L1 norm minimization), stability (but without studying entire matrix?), etc.
- $P > N$
 - Stencils are *over-determined*, may not be 4th-order
 - Coefficients are under-determined – need additional criteria to identify “best” choice
 - Leads to minimum Sobolev norm, WENO, other approximations

Results: 2D Laplacian, Dirichlet BC's

Truncation error for polynomials on a circle

$h =$	1/16	1/32	1/64	1/128	
$\min(\lambda)$	3.1e-2	4.2e-3	7.7e-4	4.5e-4	
Test	error in $\ \Lambda\Delta\phi\ _1$				Order
$\phi = xy$	3.78e-14	2.45e-13	8.13e-13	2.55e-12	N/A
$\phi = 1 - r^4$	1.26e-13	7.15e-13	6.43e-12	9.61e-12	N/A
$\phi = r^2(1 - r^4)$	9.15e-5	5.98e-6	3.83e-7	2.42e-8	3.96
Test	error in $\ F(\phi)\ _1$				Order
$\phi = xy$	5.74e-14	2.28e-13	6.13e-13	8.85e-13	N/A
$\phi = 1 - r^4$	7.56e-13	1.15e-12	2.04e-12	2.61e-11	N/A
$\phi = r^2(1 - r^4)$	2.86e-5	9.69e-7	2.99e-8	1.02e-9	4.93



Conclusions and Future Research

We have been researching a new, general cut-cell approach:

- Simple “grid generation” even with complex geometries
- 4th-order, but may be generalized to 6th or higher
- No “small cell problem,” relatively insensitive to errors in geometry generation, boundary conditions

Active research areas:

- Good conditioning → multigrid, fast parabolic solvers, time integrators (RKC)
- Limiters for non-linear hyperbolic problems
- Conditions that guarantee positive definiteness?
- Combine with moving boundary → space-time moments
- Multi-physics flux matching conditions (multi-phase flow vs. porous media)



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Work supported by
Office of Science, ASCR

Thank you!

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